



CIGIE GAO Financial Statement Audit Conference

# Critical Thinking



April 28, 2015

# ***Brain Teaser***

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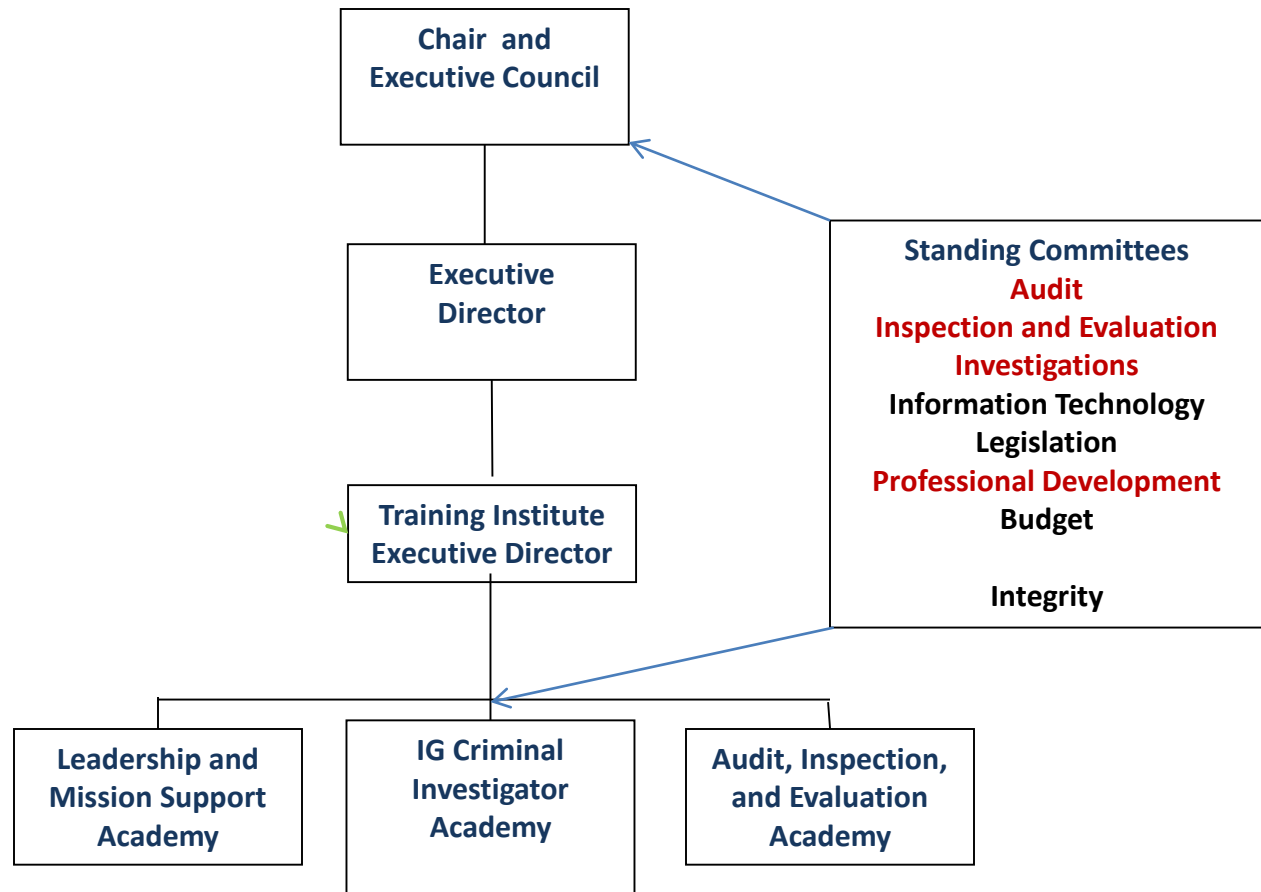
## CIGIE Training Institute

“...increase the **professionalism** and effectiveness of personnel by developing policies, standards, and approaches to aid in the establishment of a **well-trained** and highly skilled workforce in the offices of the Inspectors General.”

The Inspector General Reform Act of 2008



## CIGIE Structure





## L&MS Academy Training Programs

- Emerging Leader Program (GS10-13)
- New Leader Program (GS13-14)
- Experience Leader Program (GS14-15)
- Effective Communications
- OPM Human Resources Evaluator





## IGCIA Training Programs

- Advanced Interviewing for IG Investigators
- Adjunct Instructor Training Program
- Contract & Grant Fraud Training Program
- Essentials of IG Investigations
- Hotline Operator Training Program
- IG Interviewing for Fraud: AI&E
- IG Investigator Training Program
- Public Corruption Investigations Training Program
- Period Refresher Training Program
- Transition Training Program
- Undercover Investigations Training Program
- Undercover Operations of OIG Managers



## AI&E Academy Training Programs

- Audit Peer Review
- Coaching Effective Writing
- **Critical Thinking Skills**
- I&E Peer Review
- IG Authorities
- Introductory Auditor
- Suspension and Debarment
- Understanding AI&E Standards
- Writing Effective Reports
- Writing Fundamentals

# How deep is your rut?



How often do you



and think about how you think?

*To make you think...*

What is the last number in the  
series?

4 2 3 4 6 2 3 \_\_\_\_



# What is Critical Thinking?

...the mental process that affects  
***ALL*** aspects of your life.



How you think impacts everything you do:

How you look at life

How you interact with others

How you approach challenges

How you make decisions

How you ask questions

What you say and how you say it

# What is Critical Thinking?

## Thinking Non-Critically

## Thinking Critically

Example: Shopping

- \*sidetracked by displays/ads
- \*prone to impulse buys
- \*buy things you want

- \*what buys have I made?
- \*were they good buys?
- \*what do I need?





# Applying Critical Thinking





*To make you think...*

❖ Divide 30 by  $\frac{1}{2}$  and add 10. What is the answer?

# What is Monological vs Multilogical Thinking?

Disciplined thinkers think in many different ways (multilogical) versus thinking one way (monological).

- Collaborative Thinking—values teamwork and solving problems together
- Systematic Thinking—values processes and synthesizes them in a methodical, orderly manner
- Abstract Thinking—uses theories and abstractions and is idea-centered
- Evaluative Thinking—assesses for effectiveness and seeks improvement
- Independent Thinking—arrives at own conclusions and tries to improve own intellectual well-being



## Avoiding monological thinking:

We need to use it but often we try to simplify and shorten the process of getting answers.

The temptation of the “shortcut” can limit what we have to do or consider such as the number of factors, the amount of research, the number of viewpoints, etc.

# Applying Multilogical Thinking



## ***To make you think...***

Each formula contains the initial of the words  
that help you translate it:

$$8 \text{ P or } 4 \text{ Q} = 1 \text{ G}$$

$$C + C + C + E = E F$$

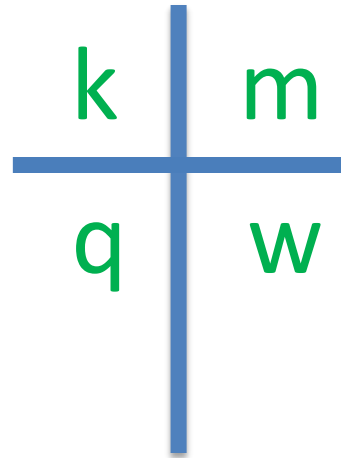
$$D + P + T = T E$$

$$13 \text{ S} + 50 \text{ S on the AF}$$

## What are the Elements of Reasoning?

1. **Issue**-What is the problem and is it clearly stated?
2. **Desired Outcomes**-What is the goal or purpose?
3. **Assumptions**-What are my assumptions and biases?
4. **Point of View**-What is my point of view and have I sought out other viewpoints?
5. **Information**-What data do I have and is it reliable?
6. **Inference**-What can I draw from the information?
7. **Consequences and Implications**-What are the solutions and the results?
8. **Implementation and Monitoring**-What should the results look like and how will follow up occur?

*To make you think...*





# Applying the Elements of Reasoning





What is the odd word below and why?

on be to in we us do



# What is Socratic Questioning?

A process that **elicits** information, **clarifies** reasoning, **explores** values and **slows down your thinking** so that you can improve it. It is based on the concept that everything can be discovered through **questioning**.

## What is Socratic questioning?

...focuses on asking *open-ended questions* meant to elicit more information.

**It is important to ask the right question at the right time in the right way and then listen for the answer.**

# Applying Socratic Questioning



## *To make you think...*

Translate each sentence into the more familiar phrase:

- Scintillate scintillate asteroid minified.
- The stylus is more potent than the claymore.
- Members of the avian species of identical plumage congregate.
- It is fruitless to attempt to indoctrinate a superannuate canine with innovative maneuvers.
- Where there are visible vapors having their provenance in ignited carbonaceous materials, there is conflagration.

***To make you think...***

Seven months have 31 days in them. Eleven months have 30 days in them. How many months have 28 days in them?



**Were you paying attention?**



# Know your ruts...



Remember to...



...and think!



## Resource Links

**CIGIE:**

<http://www.ignet.gov/index.html>

**CIGIE Training Institute:**

<http://www.ignet.gov/pande/training1.html>



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